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Mondes, en sa qualité de lecteur, et qui n'avait pas encore paru, il menaça Buloz, alors directeur, de donner sa démission, si le roman n'était pas inséré. Hervieu en sut que douze ans plus tard que Brunetière, devenu un de ses chers amis, avait joué son avenir pour rester fidèle à sa parole. Il poussait si loin la discrétion et la retenue dans la manifestation de sa confiance et de son estime que certains de ses anciens élèves n'en eurent la révélation qu'après sa mort. M^r. Bédier, aujourd'hui le brillant successeur de Gaston Paris, au Collège de France, avait eu avec lui depuis l'École Normale des relations affectueuses qui n'avaient jamais été jusqu'à l'intimité. Grande fut sa surprise, lorsque M^{me}. Brunetière lui apprit que par son testament, son mari l'avait chargé de l'examen et du classement de ses papiers. S'il était permis de parler de soi, j'ajouterais que j'ai eu l'expérience de cette bonté qui s'exerçait avec délicatesse et gravité. Mais il apportait dans le discernement de ses protégés et dans la manière d'accorder ses bienfaits la scrupuleuse conscience qu'il mettait à remplir ses devoirs de critique, de professeur et d'homme privé.

C'est sur ce mot de conscience que je voudrais terminer cette rapide esquisse. Puissant écrivain, orateur hors de pair, il a été dans sa vie comme dans son enseignement et dans son oeuvre littéraire un grand honnête homme.

LOUIS ALLARD.

ARTHUR TRACY CABOT, M.D. (1852-1912)

Fellow in Class II, Section 4, 1889.

It is not easy, at once adequately and briefly, to set forth even the salient facts and evolution of the life of a man of such varied activities and interests as was the late Arthur Tracy Cabot.

He was of complex ancestry, Scotch, Irish, English and Norman French (Chabot, Island of Jersey) blood mingling in his veins. One of his great grandfathers, Thomas H. Perkins, was perhaps the most conspicuous merchant of his day in Boston, public spirited, enterprising, a large man in every sense of the word. The Perkins Institution for the Blind is one of his monuments. Samuel Cabot married one of his daughters and became a partner in the firm of Perkins & Company. Samuel Cabot, jr., was the second son of this marriage, the first of

the family to embrace medicine as a profession. After the completion of his medical studies in Paris he went to Yucatan on the Stevens Expedition. His independence of thought and action, his sterling character, his services to this community as one of its leading practitioners and for many years surgeon to the Massachusetts General Hospital are still fresh in the memory of many.

Dr. Samuel Cabot married his distant cousin, Hannah Jackson, daughter of Patrick T. Jackson, whose brothers James and Charles were as eminent in medicine and law as was he in business.

Arthur, third son of this marriage, was born in 1852. From the Perkins-Cabot side he inherited largely his marked taste for nature, out-of-door manly sports and love of art, traits so prominent in some of the race as to be almost over-mastering. From the Jackson side he derived his physique, a slight but wiry frame, dominated by a will and sense of duty which go far to promote sustained effort. Promptly after his graduation at Harvard in 1872, he began the study of medicine, taking his M.D. in 1876, and serving as Surgical Intern at the Massachusetts General Hospital. He then went abroad, giving special attention to surgical pathology, but neglecting no opportunity of laying a firm foundation in all pertaining to the Healing Art. In Vienna and Berlin he got nothing helpful in the line of antiseptic surgery; but later passed a month in London, heard Lister's Inaugural Address at King's College, and ever after kept on the crest of the advancing wave of clean surgery. In 1877 he began general practice in Boston, and steadily won recognition, alike from the profession and the public. To surgery he had strong leanings from the first; but, conservative, cautious, ruled by reason more than impulse, always thinking things out to their ultimate results, it was not until ten or more years later that he gave up all strictly medical practice. From 1878 to 1880 he was Instructor at the Medical School in Oral Pathology and Surgery; from 1885 to 1896, Instructor in Genito-Urinary Surgery. He would, doubtless, have become full Professor but for his election to the higher position on the Corporation in the latter year. He was for several years Surgeon to the Carney Hospital, Assistant Surgeon at the Children's Hospital from 1879 to 1881, Visiting Surgeon 1881 to 1889; Surgeon to Out-Patients at the Massachusetts General Hospital, 1881 to 1886; Visiting Surgeon, 1886 to 1907.

As a general surgeon he was eminent; as a genito-urinary surgeon, pre-eminent. True surgeon that he was, his head always ruled his hand. He could not be persuaded into operating. He must be convinced in his own mind of its necessity or desirability; nor would

he undertake any operation which he thought could be better performed by another. This absolute integrity of character, combined with rare soundness of judgment and with manual skill, won him the implicit confidence of all who came into contact with him, and naturally led to a wide consulting practice. He was as painstaking and conscientious in the after-treatment as in deciding whether or not to operate. He never in the least shirked responsibility; but it wore upon him more than it does upon some men of different temperament, and prevented him from doing as much work as he might otherwise have done.

Among his contributions to general surgery may be mentioned his use of the valve acting dressing and chlorinated soda irrigation for empyema operations, and a wire splint for fractures of the lower leg, devised while Surgeon to the Children's Hospital, in large use throughout the world, and, curiously enough, save in Boston, known by his name. It displaced the old fracture box. He early advocated and practised incision *without drainage* for tubercular peritonitis. In 1874 to 1875 he assisted his father in the first two successful abdominal operations connected with the Massachusetts General Hospital. They were on hospital patients, but the operations were done in a neighboring house in Allen Street. It appears that Dr. Arthur Cabot did the first successful abdominal operation within the hospital walls in 1884, on a case of large strangulated umbilical hernia. The patient had been admitted to Dr. Hodges' service. He, however, being ill, Dr. Bigelow was taking his place, and Dr. Cabot, then Surgeon to Out-Patients, was assisting the latter. Dr. Cabot was called in the evening. Dr. Hodges had recently published a paper on cases of this nature, concluding that operation was always fatal, recovery occasional without operation. Dr. Cabot therefore sought Dr. Bigelow, whom he found at Dr. Hodges' house. He stated the case. Dr. Bigelow: "What do you want to do?" Dr. Cabot: "Operate." Dr. Bigelow: "Whether you operate or not the patient will die, therefore do as you like. Is not that so, Dr. Hodges?" Dr. Hodges: "No, if you operate he will die; if you don't he may get well." After some discussion, Dr. Bigelow agreed that Dr. Cabot should do as he liked, so he returned to the hospital, operated, and in a few weeks the patient was well. We tell the story thus in full for the light it throws on the state of surgery less than thirty years ago. In 1886, Dr. Cabot had three successful cases of laparotomy in rapid succession, one for ovarian cyst, two for fibroids.

Dr. Cabot's qualities did not escape the keen eye of the late Dr.

Henry J. Bigelow, who made him his heir, as it were, in litholapaxy, and thus led to Dr. Cabot's becoming the leader in genito-urinary surgery that he was, admitted to be such far and wide.

As evidence of his thoroughness and of the soundness of his judgment it may be mentioned that in his paper on "Rupture of the Bladder," 1891, and in another on "Rupture of the Urethra," 1896, he laid down rules of procedure which stand unchanged today.

Here, as well as elsewhere, may be mentioned that about 1886, realizing the importance of immediate pathological examination of many surgical cases while under operation in order to determine the scope and nature of the necessary operation, he and his brother Samuel established a fund of \$10,000, known as the "Samuel Cabot Fund for Pathological Research," in memory of their father. The interest on this fund is used for paying a pathologist to be on hand operating days and making such examinations as the surgeons require. If not the first, it was surely an early effort to make thorough pathological study go hand in hand with the surgical operation. Dr. Cabot was also the prime mover in starting the Clinico-Pathological Laboratory, was a leader in raising the necessary funds and planning the building. He became Librarian to the Hospital, and evolved order from chaos in the book and case records, both now thoroughly available.

He was President of the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1905 and 1906. In his visitations to the District Societies he did yeoman service in stirring up our profession to more actively interesting itself in the campaign against tuberculosis. It was probably this leadership which induced Governor Guild in 1907 to appoint him a Trustee of the Massachusetts State Hospitals for Consumptives, and at the first meeting of the Trustees, in September of that year, he was elected Chairman. The amount and quality of his work in this capacity deserves fullness of treatment, which, it is to be hoped, it will receive, but which it is impossible to give here. In his automobile he traversed the State to select suitable sites for the three hospitals for one hundred and fifty patients each. The North Reading Hospital was opened in the fall of 1908, those of Lakeville and Westfield early in 1909. The appropriation of \$300,000 was not exceeded, and the requirements were fully met at a cost of \$700 a bed as against nearly \$2000 a bed for the Boston Consumptives Hospital at Mattapan. The Rutland Hospital was then placed under the Trustees. Only those on the inside fully know how much of the conspicuous success of this new departure was due to the compelling wisdom and unremitting labor of Dr. Cabot. In this, as in all his other work, its quality was only matched by his

modesty. He was influential in procuring the passage of the bill requiring instruction in hygiene and preventive disease in the public schools. His counsel was sought by the General Electric Company with regard to the safeguarding and promoting the health of its employees at Lynn and Pittsfield. So deeply did he become interested in this line of work that in the spring of 1910 he retired from all practice and its emoluments that he might husband his strength for public work alone.

During about thirty years he published over one hundred and twenty papers. The last is a plea for the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis in childhood, to be found in the *Atlantic Monthly* for November, 1912. He was a member of many medical societies and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

This is a meagre account of his strictly professional activities. In 1896, as has been stated before, he was chosen a member of the Corporation of Harvard College, that small body of seven which fills its own vacancies, has exclusive charge of the funds, the initiative in most appointments, and may, in a way, be compared, as regards the government of the University, to the Senate of the United States; though it has more power, relatively, to that of the lower House — the Overseers. Membership in the Corporation is no sinecure. It involves a deal of work. Questions large in variety and great in moment constantly arise and demand careful, deliberate, ripe judgment. Nobody in active professional or business life can accept the honor and the service without large sacrifice of time and strength; no physician without also loss of income. After careful consideration he accepted the election, and we saw the unprecedented occupation of two seats on the Board by physicians. The part which he and Dr. Walcott have taken in the marvelous development of the Medical School can be, in a measure, appreciated by the most matter-of-fact. They were the Building Committee on the part of the Corporation.

Dr. Cabot's feeling and love for art, always keen and discriminating, led to the Trusteeship in the Museum of Fine Arts in 1899. Here, too, he was a worker. Everywhere and always the "good enough" for him was nothing short of the best of which he was capable. In social life he was more and more sought after. He had at times a certain grimness of manner which could be raised to the nth power by anything mean, petty or under-handed. This grimness concealed more or less to the casual acquaintance the steady glow of one of the warmest of hearts and the most lovable of natures; but abated, in a measure, as he grew older. He was sympathetically receptive, and

gave close attention to those who asked his opinion or advice. He was fond of horses and a good judge of them, played polo and rode to hounds. No form of boating was foreign to him. Tennis, golf and the like he enjoyed and played when he could get time and opportunity. His vacations were mostly spent in hunting and fishing trips from Florida to Canada, and as far as the Rockies. Shortly before his death he sold his interest in the Long Point Ducking Club, probably the best in the country, and devoted the proceeds to the purchase and maintenance of land in Canton, his legal residence, as a playground for the town.

Combining harmoniously and in a high degree intelligence, sound judgment, courage both moral and physical, sense of duty, manual dexterity and mechanical skill, he devoted his powers to the service of others, with small thought of pecuniary return. For him to give was, indeed, more blessed than to receive. He was, in truth, a noble gentleman, a conspicuous example of a man born in high social position, with means sufficient to tempt a less ardent nature to idleness, but serving only to carry him to fields of great usefulness and public service. He taught us how to live, and, again, how to face disease and death with cheerful fortitude.

He is survived by his widow, Susan, daughter and only child of the late George O. Shattuck, a leader of the Suffolk Bar.

F. C. SHATTUCK.